

CLAIMS

1. The use of a compound that depletes or inhibits B lymphocytes in the preparation of a composition for being administered to a patient in order to amplify an immune reaction of the T cytotoxic lymphocytes.
2. The use according to Claim 1, characterized in that the B lymphocytes are naïve B lymphocytes.
3. The use according to Claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the immune reaction of the T cytotoxic lymphocytes is excited by a vaccination.
4. The use according to Claim 3, characterized in that the vaccination is a vaccination against a tumor and/or against a chronic viral, parasitic or intracellular germ infection.
5. The use according to Claim 3 or 4, characterized in that the vaccination is a therapeutic vaccination.
6. The use according to any one of Claims 1 to 5, characterized in that the compound that depletes or inactivates the B lymphocytes is a monoclonal or polyclonal antibody or a Fab fragment of an antibody.

7. The use according to Claim 6, characterized in that the antibody or the Fab fragment of the antibody is directed against transmembrane antigen CD20 of the pre-B or mature B lymphocytes.

8. The use according to Claim 6 or 7, characterized in that the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

9. The use according to any one of Claims 6 to 8, characterized in that the antibody is a murine/human chimeric antibody obtained by genetic engineering.

10. The use according to any one of Claims 1 to 10, characterized in that the composition is intended to be administered prior to and/or concomitant with and/or subsequent to a vaccination, in particular a vaccination against a tumor and/or against a chronic viral, parasitic or intracellular germ infection.

11. The use according to Claim 10, characterized in that the vaccination is a therapeutic vaccination.

12. The use according to any one of Claims 1 to 11, characterized in that the composition is intended to be administered to a patient in order to augment the specific T cell response to a therapeutic vaccine comprising an inactivated human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).

13. The use according to Claim 12, characterized in that the depleting compound is an antibody, advantageously monoclonal, directed against transmembrane antigen CD20 of pre-B or mature B lymphocytes.